

May 18, 1973

bids to the Department of Administrative Services was several thousand dollars less than presently charged the IBM now. It is our feeling that the experts by the completely independent and neutral source, the Council of State Governments, are far better equipped to make recommendations on computer requirements and competitive prices to the State of Nebraska than either Senator Marvel or Senator Carpenter, the latter of whom has admitted on the Legislative floor that he knows nothing whatsoever about computers and their area." To that extent of course he is true and of course he is not honest enough to admit that he is in the same position and whether or not I know anything about computers is completely immaterial because all this amendment and the previous amendment attempt to do or to say before he and those under him made a decision. If the amount involved is more than \$50,000 then he had to apply it to the legislature and I presume to the budget committee for authorization for the expenditure of that kind of money. Then he ended up and I think it is good advice that "I urge caution in accepting the amendments of either Senator Carpenter or Senator Marvel in this area." I presume that he would say the same thing in any area. Now these amendments I have been told by those have the responsibility to give us legal advice that in this form they will be in the area of our responsibility if we want to do it. Now we have to have two of them. One for this bill and one for 582 because they affect different fiscal years. This amendment affects only this years 72-73. The other amendment which I offer in 582 affects 73-74. Now all it does in my judgment and if doesn't do that you have not done any harm it says that they can not enter into a contract or an agreement for the expenditure of money in the field of computers if the amount of money involved is over \$50,000. If it is then he has to come to this body and ask for an appropriation which at that time we can now look at what we are asked to do and make up our minds if we know anything about the subject at all. I move for the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Mahoney then Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, I oppose the Carpenter amendment. This would be further hand stringing the Executive branch of Government and limiting in the area of the computers to \$50,000 when in a many, many others of the state government the Governor has the prerogative to make decisions, I think that all we see here again would be a rehashing of 452 and because of this afternoon here when we have many, many other things before us and a very hot Friday afternoon, I think that we should dispatch this amendment and see that it is not adopted to 581 this afternoon.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, members of the body, I would briefly like to support Senator Carpenter in this. I think that there are differences here when you talk about the equipment of this complexity and obselence in the future and I think for this reason it is good to be cautious and for this body to take a second look. This is not ordinary purchasing and the most complicated equipment that there is. I think for this reason we ought to support Senator Carpenter and as far as 452 goes that battle was lost. I think that this is a different matter and I think that Senator Carpenter is correct in this.

PRESIDENT: Next to speak is Senator Frank Lewis.